

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 4 and 5, without prejudice, and add new claim 6 as follows:

1. (Original) A method of making a cased wellbore comprising at least the steps of:
assembling a lower segment of a drill string comprising in sequence from top to bottom a first hollow segment of drill pipe, a latching subassembly means possessing multiple stabilizer ribs attached to the exterior of said latching subassembly means to stabilize the drill string during drilling, and a rotary drill bit having at least one mud passage for passing drilling mud from the interior of the drill string to the outside of the drill string;
rotary drilling the well into the earth to a predetermined depth with the drill string by attaching successive lengths of hollow drill pipes to said lower segment of the drill string and by circulating mud from the interior of the drill string to the outside of the drill string during rotary drilling so as to produce a wellbore;
after said predetermined depth is reached, pumping a latching float collar valve means down the interior of the drill string with drilling mud until it seats into place within said latching subassembly means;
pumping a bottom wiper plug means down the interior of the drill string with cement until the bottom wiper plug means seats on the upper portion of the latching float collar valve means so as to clean the mud from the interior of the drill string;
pumping any required additional amount of cement into the wellbore by forcing it through a portion of the bottom wiper plug means and through at least one mud passage of the drill bit into the wellbore;
pumping a top wiper plug means down the interior of the drill string with water until the top wiper plug seats on the upper portion of the bottom wiper plug means thereby cleaning the interior of the drill string and forcing additional cement into the wellbore through at least one mud passage of the drill bit;
allowing the cement to cure;
thereby cementing into place the drill string to make a cased wellbore.
2. (Original) Rotary drilling apparatus to drill a borehole into the earth comprising a hollow drill string possessing at least one drilling stabilizer means, the drill string attached

to a rotary drill bit having at least one mud passage for passing the drilling mud from within the hollow drill string to the borehole, a source of drilling mud, a source of cement, and at least one latching float collar valve means that is pumped with the drilling mud into place above the rotary drill bit to install said latching float collar means within the hollow drill string above said rotary drill bit that is used to cement the drill string and rotary drill bit into the earth during one pass into the formation of the drill string to make a steel cased well.

3. (Original) A method of drilling a well from the surface of the earth and cementing a drill string into place within a wellbore to make a cased well during one pass into formation using an apparatus comprising at least a hollow drill string possessing at least one drilling stabilizer means, the drill string attached to a rotary drill bit, said bit having at least one mud passage to convey drilling mud from the interior of the drill string to the wellbore, a source of drilling mud, a source of cement, and at least one latching float collar valve assembly means, using at least the following steps:

pumping said latching float collar valve means from the surface of the earth through the hollow drill string with drilling mud so as to seat said latching float collar valve means above said drill bit; and

pumping cement through said seated latching float collar valve means to cement the drill string and rotary drill bit into place within the wellbore, whereby at least a portion of said drill string is centralized in said well while cementing said drill string into place within said wellbore by the presence of said drilling stabilizer means.

4. (Canceled) A method for drilling and lining a wellbore comprising: drilling the wellbore using a drill string, the drill string having an earth removal member operatively connected thereto and a casing portion for lining the wellbore; stabilizing the drill string while drilling the wellbore; locating the casing portion within the wellbore; and maintaining the casing portion in a substantially centralized position in relation to a diameter of the wellbore.

5. (Canceled) The method of Claim 4 wherein following the lining of said wellbore with said casing portion, said casing portion is cemented into place using at least the following steps:

(a) pumping a latching float collar valve means from the surface of the earth through said drill string with drilling mud so as to seat said latching float collar valve means above said earth removal member, wherein said earth removal member possesses at least one mud passage to convey drilling mud from the interior of the drill string to the wellbore; and

(b) pumping cement through said seated latching float collar valve means to cement the drill string and the earth removal member into place within the wellbore.

Please add the following new claim:

6. (New) A method for drilling and casing a wellbore, comprising:
providing a drill string and an earth removal member operatively connected to the drill string, at least a portion of the drill string comprising casing;
drilling the wellbore while stabilizing the drill string;
disposing the casing portion within the wellbore, thereby lining the wellbore; and
setting the casing portion into place using a physically alterable bonding material while continuing to centrally position the casing portion in relation to a diameter of the wellbore, wherein the setting the casing portion into place using a physically alterable bonding material comprises:

(a) pumping a latching float collar valve member from the surface of the earth through the drill string with drilling mud so as to seat the latching float collar valve member above the earth removal member, wherein the earth removal member possesses at least one mud passage to convey drilling mud from the interior of the drill string to the wellbore, and

(b) pumping cement through the seated latching float collar valve member to cement the drill string and the earth removal member into place within the wellbore.